

Montana Sportsmen ALLIANCE

Voice of Reason on Montana Fish and Wildlife Issues

TO THE SENATE FWP COMMITTEE:

RE: SB 151-AN ACT REQUIRING THE ISSUANCE OF ARCHERY-ONLY ELK PERMITS AT 2007 LEVELS IN CERTAIN AREAS

POSITION: Montana Sportsmen's Alliance hereby goes on record **STRONGLY OPPOSING** this bill based on the following reasons:

- Currently, resident archers have virtually 100% chance of drawing permits if they apply for it as their first choice. See attached sheet.
- Currently, non-resident archers have an average of 32.83% chance of drawing permits in the "Breaks" units and 55.9% in the adjacent units. See attached.
- Archery does not reduce elk populations that are over objectives. To reduce populations you must increase cow harvest, not bull harvest, and with rifles.
- Non-resident hunters are not being deprived of the opportunity to hunt in Montana since for the past two year's, anyone who has applied for an elk tag was drawn.
- Special elk permits are highly coveted by resident and non-residents archers and rifle hunters. Res. rifle hunters odds are between 1.32 to 11.35% in the "Breaks".
- Elk management needs to be adaptive and with this bill, no changes could be made until 2017. Many variables could change that require a more immediate response. This issue is best left in the hands of the new FWP Commission.

Once again we would like to state our **STRONG OPPOSITION TO SB 151.**

Montana Sportsmen Alliance Leadership Group

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2011 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, Breaks												
Resident						Nonresident						
Applications			Successful			Applications			Successful			
Quota	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD
410-15	1,800	1,469	664	167	1,465	159	0	517	130	69	176	0
411-15	1,260	1,175	240	80	1,138	0	0	461	110	52	122	0
420-15	600	254	320	84	252	288	0	192	137	55	60	0
Totals	3,660	2,898	1,224	331	2,855	447	0	1,170	377	176	358	0
2011 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, Outside Breaks												
Resident						Nonresident						
Applications			Successful			Applications			Successful			
Quota	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD
401-15	170	81	127	46	81	76	0	12	2	1	12	1
411-15	800	455	361	79	455	266	0	199	79	12	79	0
420-15	775	252	560	110	262	450	0	73	50	26	73	0
500-15	135	50	86	26	50	76	0	4	9	4	5	0
502-15	125	65	69	23	65	52	0	6	2	0	2	0
580-15	115	43	58	16	43	57	0	28	6	3	15	0
590-15	385	172	165	47	172	165	10	126	15	3	38	0
799-15	785	284	430	55	283	424	0	168	73	36	78	0
Totals	3,290	1,402	1,876	402	1,401	1,566	10	616	236	85	305	8

Resident				Nonresident			
% 1st	% 2nd	% 1st	% 2nd	% 1st	% 2nd	% 1st	% 2nd
99.73%	23.95%	34.04%	0.00%	100.00%	50.00%	100.00%	50.00%
96.85%	0.00%	26.46%	0.00%	100.00%	73.68%	39.70%	0.00%
99.21%	90.00%	31.25%	0.00%	100.00%	77.59%	100.00%	0.00%
98.52%	36.52%	30.60%	0.00%	100.00%	88.37%	100.00%	55.56%
				100.00%	75.36%	100.00%	100.00%
				100.00%	98.28%	53.57%	0.00%
				100.00%	100.00%	30.16%	0.00%
				99.65%	98.60%	46.43%	0.00%
				99.93%	83.48%	49.51%	3.39%

2012 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, Breaks												
Resident						Nonresident						
Applications			Successful			Applications			Successful			
Quota	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD
410-15	1,900	1,750	711	154	1,715	0	0	500	151	35	185	0
620-15	1,400	1,080	273	132	1,075	186	0	481	84	28	139	0
798-15	705	303	429	80	303	332	0	219	67	41	70	0
Totals	4,005	3,133	1,413	366	3,093	518	0	1,200	302	104	394	0
2012 Elk Archery Permit Numbers, Outside Breaks												
Resident						Nonresident						
Applications			Successful			Applications			Successful			
Quota	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD	1ST	2ND	3RD
401-15	350	113	157		113	157		49	42		48	32
411-15	900	566	432		566	245		180	60		89	
420-15	680	282	664		282	334		101	51		64	
500-15	180	51	104		51	104		16	10		16	7
502-15	150	63	89		63	77		4	6		4	6
580-15	130	62	116		62	55		26	7		13	
590-15	450	191	231		191	214		111	14		45	
799-15	860	287	497		287	487		166	59		86	
Totals	3,700	1,615	2,290	0	1,615	1,673	0	653	249	0	365	45

Resident				Nonresident			
% 1st	% 2nd	% 1st	% 2nd	% 1st	% 2nd	% 1st	% 2nd
98.00%	0.00%	37.00%	0.00%	100.00%	97.96%	76.19%	
99.54%	68.13%	28.90%	0.00%	100.00%	56.71%	49.44%	0.00%
100.00%	77.39%	31.96%	0.00%	100.00%	50.30%	63.37%	0.00%
98.72%	36.66%	32.83%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	70.00%	0.00%
				100.00%	86.52%	100.00%	100.00%
				100.00%	47.41%	50.00%	0.00%
				100.00%	92.64%	40.54%	0.00%
				100.00%	97.99%	51.81%	0.00%
				100.00%	73.06%	55.90%	18.07%

* Resident first choice success not 100% only due to residents applying as a party with nonresidents.